



San Bernardino County Candidate's Handbook

November 6, 2007

**Registrar of Voters
777 E. Rialto Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0770
(909) 387-8300 or (800) 881-8683**

CAUTION

This handbook is intended to provide general information concerning the nomination and election of candidates, and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation, or rule. In case of conflict, the law, regulation, or rule will apply. Candidates are encouraged to seek legal advice regarding compliance with the law.

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Provided below is a quick reference of telephone numbers and Internet addresses to assist you with questions you may have during your campaign.

Registrar of Voters, San Bernardino County

Voter File Maintenance
Candidate/Public Services

www.sbcrov.com

(909) 387-2479

(909) 387-8300

(800) 881-8683

Poll Worker Recruitment

(909) 387-3341

Absentee

(909) 387-2305

Precinct Planning

(909) 387-2045

Automation Support

(909) 387-2271

Polling Places/Operations

(909) 387-2044

Fair Political Practices Commission

Technical Assistance Division

www.fppc.ca.gov

(916) 322-5660

(866) 275-3772

Enforcement Division

(800) 561-1861

Secretary of State

Election Division

www.sos.ca.gov

(916) 657-2166

Information & Election Fraud Hot-Line

(800) 345-8683

Political Reform Division

(916) 653-6224

California Legislative Information

California Codes and link to California Constitution

www.leginfo.ca.gov

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

777 East Rialto Avenue • San Bernardino, CA 92415-0770 • (909) 387-8300
Fax (909) 387-2022



COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
PUBLIC AND SUPPORT
SERVICES GROUP

Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your decision to seek office in the upcoming UDEL Election. Your candidacy provides voters in San Bernardino County a choice and is important to the democratic process.

Because there are many requirements associated with being a candidate, we have prepared this Candidate's Handbook to assist you in understanding these requirements. It contains valuable information pertaining to qualifications for office, terms of office, procedures, fees, forms, and dates.

Please keep in mind that this Handbook is intended to be a resource and is not a substitute for legal counsel.

We recommend that you file your nomination documents as early as possible to ensure that your documents are complete. Filing deadlines are mandated by law and cannot be changed. If you wait until the end of the filing period to file your documents, this could result in your name not being on the ballot.

The Registrar of Voters is open each weekday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., except holidays. We are located at 777 E. Rialto Ave., San Bernardino.

Our goal is to provide you with assistance that will make your candidate filing an enjoyable experience. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Candidate/Public Services at (909) 387-8300.

Best wishes to you in your campaign.

Sincerely,

Kari Verjil
Registrar of Voters

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General Information

DATES OF INTEREST

July 16	Nomination Period Opens. Candidates may pick up nomination packets or at the Registrar of Voters or various Special District Secretaries.
July 16 - August 10	If required, the Statement of Economic Interest Form 700 must be obtained from the District Secretary and filed with the district by the close of the nomination period.
August 10	Last day that any candidate may request in writing a different ballot designation for this election.
August 10	Nomination Period closes. Close of regular candidate filing period. Extended nomination period begins if incumbent did not file.
August 13	Candidate Meeting at ROV General Services Conference Room at 4:00 pm.
August 15	Extended nomination period ends.
August 16	Secretary of State and Registrar of Voters shall conduct random alphabet drawings.
September 10 - October 23	Period for Write-in candidates to file their statements of write-in candidacy and nomination papers.
September 27	First day sample ballots may be mailed.
October 8 - October 30	Applications for absentee ballots available during this time period from the Registrar of Voters.
October 9 – November 6	Early Voting at the Registrar of Voters Office.
October 22	Last day to register to vote for this election.
November 6	Election Day - The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. and will close at 8:00 p.m.
November 8 - December 3	Registrar of Voters shall commence official canvass no later than the first Thursday following the election.
December 3	Deadline for the Registrar of Voters to certify election results.

OFFICES				
SCHOOL DISTRICTS				
		CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST		
OFFICE	APPROXIMATE VOTERS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY COST
Baker Valley Unified School District – 2 Full Term				
	187	\$250		
Morongo Unified School District – 3 Full Term				
	24,546	\$740		
Mt. Baldy Joint School District – 1 Full Term				
	300	\$250	Los Angeles	
Chaffey Community College District – 3 Full Term				
	293,284	\$8,850		
Palo Verde Community College District – 4 Full Term				
Trustee Area 1	2,704	\$250	Riverside	\$400
Trustee Area 2				
Victor Valley Community College District – 2 Full Term				
	133,094	\$3,980	Los Angeles	\$400

SPECIAL DISTRICTS				
		CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST		
OFFICE	APPROXIMATE VOTERS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY COST
Apple Valley Foothill County Water District – 2 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	243	\$250		
Apple Valley Heights County Water District – 2 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	311	\$250		
Arrowbear Park County Water District – 3 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	398	\$250		
Baker Community Services District – 2 Full Term				
	141	\$250		
Barstow Heights Community Services District – 3 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	1,017	\$250		
Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency – 2 Full Term				
	1,575	\$250		
Crest Forest Fire Protection District – 2 Full Term				
	7,493	\$250		

		CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST		
OFFICE	APPROXIMATE VOTERS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY COST
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency				
Division 1 – 1 Full Term	2,145	\$250		
Division 3 – 1 Full Term	2,810	\$250		
Division 5 – 1 Full Term	1,980	\$250		

Crestline Village Water District – 2 Full Term				
	4,100	\$250		

Daggett Community Services District – 3 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	201	\$250		

East Valley Water District – 2 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	36,830	\$1,110		

Juniper-Riviera County Water District – 3 Full Term				
	251	\$250		

Lake Arrowhead Community Services District – 2 Full Term				
	7,493	\$250		

Mariana Ranchos County Water District – 2 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	726	\$250		

Morongo Valley Community Services District – 2 Full Term				
	1,695	\$250		

		CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST		
OFFICE	APPROXIMATE VOTERS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY COST
Newberry Community Services District – 2 Full Term				
	990	\$250		
Rim of the World Recreation and Park District – 2 Full Term				
	15,999	\$490		
Running Springs Water District – 2 Full Term				
	2,533	\$250		
San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation				
Division 1–1 Full Term	17,506	\$530		
Division 3–1 Full Term	17,108	\$510		
Division 7–1 Full Term	11,829	\$360		
Thunderbird County Water District – 3 Full Term				
	325	\$250		
Twentynine Palms Water District – 2 Full Term				
	5,502	\$250		
West Valley Water District – 3 Full Term				
	24,588	\$740	Riverside	\$250
Yucca Valley Airport – 2 Full Term, 1 Short Term				
	38	\$250		

CITIES				
		CANDIDATE STATEMENT COST		
OFFICE	APPROXIMATE VOTERS	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY	SHARED COUNTY COST
City of Redlands				
City Clerk	35,097	\$1,060		
City Treasurer				
City Council Member 2 Full Term				

City of San Bernardino				
City Attorney	68,004	\$2,040		
City Clerk	68,004	\$2,040		
City Treasurer	68,004	\$2,040		
City Council Member Ward 3 – 1 Full Term	7,975	\$250		
City Council Member Ward 5 – 1 Full Term	12,457	\$370		
City Council Member Ward 6 – 1 Full Term	9,378	\$280		
City Council Member Ward 7 – 1 Full Term	10,723	\$320		

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION

General Information

Unless otherwise specifically provided, no person is eligible to be elected or appointed to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. E.C. §201

A person is disqualified from holding any office upon conviction of designated crimes as specified in the Constitution and laws of the State. Government Code §1021

A person is not eligible to hold a county or district office unless he or she is a registered voter of the county or district in which the duties of the office are to be exercised at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person or at the time of the person's appointment. Government Code § 1020

If a candidate is seeking a nonpartisan office, all reference to party affiliation shall be omitted on all required forms. E.C. §8002

The qualifications of a candidate for an elective office and of an elective officer of a District shall be determined by the principal act of that district. E.C. §10514

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Declaration of Candidacy for school board may be obtained from the Registrar of Voters office only. E.C. §10603

Declaration of Candidacy for District office may be obtained from the District Secretary or the Office of the Registrar of Voters. E.C. §10510

SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY / QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER

CANDIDATE'S ELIGIBILITY

1. Any person who is 18 years of age or older, a citizen of the state, a resident of the school district, a registered voter, and who is not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of the state from holding a civil office, is eligible to be elected or appointed a member of a governing board of a school district. Ed. C. §§35107, 72103
2. An employee of a school district may not be sworn into office as an elected or appointed member of that school district's governing board unless and until he or she resigns as an employee. If the employee does not resign, the employee will automatically be terminated upon being sworn into office. Ed. C. §35107
3. No member of the governing board of any school district shall be financially interested in any contract made by the board of which he/she is a member. Ed. C. §§35233, 72533

UNIFORM DISTRICT ELECTION LAW (UDEL) SPECIAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR

AIRPORT DISTRICTS	A registered voter and a resident of the district. P.U.C. §22401-'79 and G.C. §24001
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICTS	A registered elector residing within the boundaries of the district. G.C. §1780 G.C. §61000
COUNTY WATER DISTRICTS	Director-at-Large: A voter of the district. Director for Divisions: A voter of the division by which he/she is elected. W.C. §§30504, 30735 and G.C. 1780
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS	A registered voter of the district. H. and S.C. §13841 and E.C. §359
HOSPITAL DISTRICTS	A registered voter residing in the district. H. and S.C. §§32100, 32100.1
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICTS	A registered voter and a resident of the division for which they are elected. W.C. §§71254, 71501 and G.C. §24001
RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICTS	A qualified voter of the district or a qualified voter of this state and an owner of real property within the district. P.R.C. §5783, 5784, 5784.1
WATER AGENCIES	<u>Bighorn Desert View Water Agency:</u> Registered to vote within the division he/she is a candidate. W.C. Apps. Ch. 112-5 and G.C. §24001

Nomination Documents and Filing Procedures

DATES / LOCATIONS FOR FILING PAPERS

THE FILING DEADLINE FOR THIS ELECTION IS 5:00 P.M. ON AUGUST 10, 2007.

All candidates must file with the Registrar of Voters.

If mailed, documents must be received by the above deadline – **A POSTMARK IS NOT SUFFICIENT.**

EXTENSION OF DEADLINE: In the event an incumbent fails to file for office by the close of nomination on Friday, August 10, 2007, any person other than the incumbent shall have until 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2007 to file for the office
E.C. §§10516, 10604

WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY: A candidate may not withdraw their name from the ballot after 5:00 p.m. on August 10, 2007.
EXCEPTION: If there is an extension the candidates for that office have until 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2007 to withdraw. E.C. §§10510, 10604

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY / OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

This form is used to declare your candidacy, provide your ballot designation, and take the Oath of Allegiance. You will complete the required information at the time you are given this paper and other documents, and the Oath of Allegiance will be administered. Once issued, these forms are public information.

If you do not intend to file a candidate statement, and have selected your ballot designation, this form can be filed on the same date it is issued.

If you are not prepared to select your ballot designation or do not know if you will do a candidate statement (or it is not ready at the time), the Declaration of Candidacy may be taken and returned at a later date - see deadlines above.

If you are physically unable to go to the Registrar of Voters office or district office/off-site location for special district candidates, call (909) 387-8300 or (800) 881-8683 to determine if there is a legal alternative.

CAUTION

You are not officially filed as a candidate until your Declaration of Candidacy is filed at the Registrar of Voters office with all appropriate forms. Even if you choose not to do a candidate statement, a form must be filed with your signature stating you do not want to file a statement.

Name as it Will Appear on the Ballot

The candidate's name will appear on the ballot as provided by the candidate on the Declaration of Candidacy. The Declaration of Candidacy cannot be changed after the deadline for filing of nomination papers.

No title or degree shall appear on a ballot on the same line as a candidate's name, either before or after the candidate's name, in the case of any election to any office.

E.C. §13106

If the candidate has changed his or her name within one year prior to the election, the new name will not appear on the ballot unless the change was made by marriage or by Decree of Court.

E.C. §13104

BALLOT DESIGNATION

The ballot designation is the word, or group of not more than three (3) words, that will appear on the ballot under the candidate's name. It designates the current principal profession, vocation, or occupation of the candidate.

Candidate ballot designations must be in compliance with either Elections Code §13107 or §13107.5.

Elections Code section 13107 states:

- (a) With the exception of candidates for Justice of the State Supreme Court or court of appeal, immediately under the name of each candidate, and not separated from the name by any line, may appear at the option of the candidate only **one** of the following designations:
- 1) Words designating the elective city, county, district, state, or federal office which the candidate holds at the time of filing the nomination documents to which he or she was elected by vote of the people, or to which he or she was appointed, in the case of a superior court judge.
 - 2) The word "incumbent" if the candidate is a candidate for the same office which he or she holds at the time of filing the nomination papers, and was elected to that office by a vote of the people, or, was unopposed on the ballot, or, in the case of a superior court judge, was appointed to that office.
 - 3) No more than three words designating the current principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate, or the principal professions, vocations, or occupations of the candidate during the calendar year immediately preceding the filing of nomination documents. For purposes of this section, all California geographical names shall be considered to be one word.

- 4) The phrase “appointed incumbent” if the candidate holds an office other than a judicial office by virtue of appointment, and the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office, or, if the candidate is a candidate for election to the same office or to some other office, the word “appointed” and the title of the office. In either instance, the candidate may not use the unmodified word “incumbent” or any words designating the office unmodified by the word “appointed”. However, the phrase “appointed incumbent” shall not be required of a candidate who seeks reelection to an office which he or she holds and to which he or she was appointed, as a nominated candidate, in lieu of an election, pursuant to Education Code §§5326 and 5328, and Election Code §§7228, 7423, 7673, 10229, or 10515.
- (b). Neither the Secretary of State nor any other election official shall accept a designation of which any of the following would be true:
- 1) It would mislead the voter.
 - 2) It would suggest an evaluation of a candidate, such as outstanding, leading, expert, virtuous, or eminent.
 - 3) It abbreviates the word “retired” or places it following any word or words, which it modifies.
 - 4) It uses a word or prefix, such as “former” or “ex-”, which means a prior status. The only exception is the use of the word “retired”.
 - 5) It uses the name of any political party, whether or not it has qualified for the ballot.
 - 6) It uses a word or words referring to a racial, religious, or ethnic group.
 - 7) It refers to any activity prohibited by law.
- (c). If, upon checking the nomination documents, the election official finds the designation to be in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in this section, the election official shall notify the candidate by registered or certified mail return receipt requested, addressed to the mailing address appearing on the candidate's nomination documents.
- 1) The candidate shall, within three days from the date of receipt of the notice, appear before the elections officer or, in the case of Secretary of State, notify the Secretary of State by telephone, and provide an alternate designation.
 - 2) In the event the candidate fails to provide an alternate designation, **no** designation shall appear after the candidate's name.

- (d) No designation given by a candidate shall be changed by the candidate after the final date for filing nomination documents, except as specifically requested by the elections official as specified in subdivision (c) or as provided in subdivision.
- (e) The designation shall remain the same for all purposes of both primary and general elections, unless the candidate, at least 98 days prior to the general election, requests in writing a different designation which the candidate is entitled to use at the time of request.
- (f) In all cases, words so used shall be printed in 8-point roman uppercase and lowercase type except that, if the designation selected is so long that it would conflict with the space requirement of §§13207 and 13211, the elections official shall use a type size for the designation for each candidate for that office sufficiently smaller to meet these requirement.
- (g). Whenever a foreign language translation of a candidate's designation is required under the Voting Right Act of 1965, as amended, to appear on the ballot in addition to the English language version, it shall be as short as possible, as consistent as is practicable with this section, and shall employ abbreviations and initials wherever possible in order to avoid undue length.

Elections Code Section 13107.5 states:

- (a) A candidate's ballot designation as "community volunteer" shall constitute a valid principle vocation or occupation for purposes of subdivision (a) of Section 13107, if not otherwise in violation of any of the restrictions set forth in that section, and subject to the following conditions:
 - 1) A candidate's community volunteer activities constitute his or her principal profession, vocation, or occupation.
 - 2) A candidate is not engaged concurrently in another principal profession, vocation, or occupation.
 - 3) A candidate may not use the designation of "community volunteer" in combination with any other principal profession, vocation, or occupation designation.
- (b) The Secretary of State shall by regulation define what constitutes a community volunteer for purposes of this section.

Withdrawal of Candidate

No candidate shall withdraw his or her declaration of candidacy after 5 p.m. on the 88th day (August 10, 2007) prior to the election. E.C. §10510(a), §10604(b)

In the case of an extension, no candidate may withdraw after 5 p.m. on the 83rd day (August 15, 2007) prior to the election. E.C. §10516(b)

Random Alphabet List

On August 16, 2007, the Secretary of State will conduct a random drawing of the alphabet. Names of candidates will be arranged on the ballot in accordance with the random alphabet. E.C. §13112

Insufficient Number of Candidates

If, by 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2007, the number of candidates in any district does not exceed that number of seats to be filled, and a petition requesting that the election be held signed by 10% of the voters of the district, or 50 voters, whichever is less, has not been presented to the Office of the Registrar of Voters, the election shall not be held. E.C. §10515

ADDITIONAL NOMINATION FORMS

Candidate's Statement of Qualifications (Required Form)

Candidates for non-partisan elective offices must file the Candidate's Statement of Qualifications form. The statement is optional, but the form must be filed to indicate whether or not you wish to have a statement appear in the Voter Information portion of the Sample Ballot. See the "Candidate's Statement of Qualifications Guidelines" section of this guide for further information.

Code of Fair Campaign Practices (Optional Form)

At the time an individual files his or her declaration of candidacy, nomination petition, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office, the elections official shall give the individual a copy of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices and a copy of the provisions of Chapter 5, Division 20 of the Elections Code. Subscription to the Code is voluntary. E.C. §20440

Dept. of Transportation Statement of Responsibility (Informational Form)

The California Department of Transportation has specific guidelines and responsibilities pertaining to political signs placed within their areas of jurisdiction. Each candidate receives an informational form letter and a sample copy of the Department of Transportation's "Statement of Responsibility" form at the time nomination documents are issued.

Candidate's Statement Guidelines

CANDIDATE STATEMENT GUIDELINES

The following information should be used in preparing your statement:

1. The law permits nonpartisan candidates to file a candidate statement to be mailed with the sample ballot. Filing of a statement is not mandatory, but is permissive if the candidate desires to file and pays the appropriate fee.
2. If a candidate statement is not filed, a waiver to that effect on the Candidate Statement Agreement Form must be signed and filed with the Declaration of Candidacy.
3. Candidate statements are confidential until the filing period ends. At that time they become public information.

FILING

Candidate statements shall be filed with the Registrar of Voters office when the candidate's Declaration of Candidacy is returned for filing. E.C. §13307(a)(2)

WITHDRAWAL

Candidate Statements may be withdrawn, but not changed, during the period for filing candidate papers and until 5 p.m. of the next working day after the close of the candidate filing period. E.C. §13307(a)(3)

PAYMENT OF FEES

The Registrar of Voters estimates the total cost of printing, handling, translating, and mailing the candidate's statement, and includes costs incurred as a result of complying with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended. This is an estimated cost only and may increase or decrease. E.C. §13307(c)

Payment is required at the time the candidate statement is filed. Cash cannot be accepted in the amount of \$100 or more.

By County ordinance, a fee of \$15 will be charged for any check that is returned by the bank. In cases where difficulty has been experienced, future payments will only be accepted by cashier's check, money order, or cash if under \$100.

For information regarding indigency provisions, please contact the Registrar of Voters. E.C. §13309

DISTRIBUTION

The Registrar of Voters shall send to each voter together with the sample ballot, a voter's pamphlet which contains the written statements of each candidate that is prepared. E.C. §13307(b)

PREPARATION

The statement shall be prepared on a form provided by the Registrar of Voters. A paper copy must be filed with the Declaration of Candidacy. Our office greatly appreciates receiving an electronic copy of the statement whenever possible. It must be TYPED in upper and lower case, single spaced.

The California Elections Code intends uniformity of appearance. Each statement is allowed the same amount of space in the sample ballot. The heading will be printed in 9 pt. type, the name, age and occupation will be printed in 9 pt. type, and the body of the text will be printed in 8 pt. type.

All statements will be printed in uniform style and size of type, in block paragraph form. Outline form is not acceptable.

Statements will be typeset exactly as submitted. Candidates are therefore advised to carefully check their statements for errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar. The Registrar of Voters is authorized to make corrections only to the format of the statement.

CONTENT

The statement may include the name, age and occupation of the candidate and a brief description of no more than 200 words of the candidate's education and qualifications expressed by the candidate. Such statement shall not include the party affiliation of the candidate nor membership or activity in partisan political organizations.

Nothing in this statement shall be deemed to make any such statement or the authors thereof free or exempt from any civil or criminal action or penalty because of any false, slanderous or libelous statements offered for printing or contained in the voter's pamphlet. E.C. §13307

Any candidate in an election who knowingly makes a false statement of a material fact in a candidate statement, prepared pursuant to E.C. 13307, with the intent to mislead the voters in connection with his or her campaign for nomination or election to a nonpartisan office is punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000). E.C. §18351

**SUPERIOR
COURT
DECISION**

Although E.C. 13307 does not expressly prohibit speaking about another candidate, it should be noted that a 1998 decision by an appellate court required a candidate to remove such references. A subsequent case decided in San Bernardino County Superior Court on this same issue relied on the appellate decision and required removal.

RULES FOR COUNTING WORDS

The following guidelines are for computing the word count for candidate statements. The ***title, occupation and age are not included in the word count***, only the statement text. The Office of the Registrar of Voters will make final determination. E.C § 9

	<u>Word(s)</u>
Punctuation	Free
Dictionary words.....	One
"I", "the", "and", etc. are counted as individual words.	
Abbreviations/Acronyms	One
Examples: SBSU, PTA, U.S.M.C., S.B.P.D.	
Geographical name.....	One
Examples: San Bernardino - 1 word	
County of San Bernardino - 1 word	
Victor Valley – 2 words	
Numbers/Numerical Combinations/E-Mail Addresses:	
Digits (1, 10, or 100, etc.).....	One
Spelled out (one, ten, or one hundred)	One for each word
50%, 1/2, etc.	One
Internet/E-mail addresses(www.sbcrov.com/jdoe@rov.sbcounty.gov).....	One
Number or letter used to identify a portion of text	One
Examples: (1), (a) will be counted as one word	
Dates:	
All digits (01/01/00)	One
Words and digits (January 1, 2000)	Two
Characters used in place of word or number (& or #)	One
Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available dictionary, printed in the United States within the past 10 years, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as separate words.	
Example: mother-in-law = 1 word	
one-half = 2 words	

EXAMPLE OF FORMAT

The Sample Ballot is 8½" x 5½". This is a sample of the candidate statement as it will appear in the sample ballot. (Actual Size)

CANDIDATE FOR EXAMPLE OFFICE SAMPLE DISTRICT

NAME: PAT DOE

AGE: 66

OCCUPATION: Fortune Teller/Comedian

FORMAT/CONTENT: This is an example of an acceptable format to be used in a candidate's statement of qualifications. The guidelines for the content of the statement are on the preceding page.

HIGHLIGHTS: It is acceptable for four words to be **bold** or underlined or **bold and underlined**. Four words may also be in ALL CAPITAL LETTERS or in ANY combination. The beginning of each paragraph may also be highlighted as shown in this example.

- It is acceptable to use four bullet statements.

PARAGRAPHS: The candidate statement is printed in standard block paragraph form, which means each paragraph will start on the left and the margins will be justified (as shown in this example). A space will appear between paragraphs unless the statement is submitted without a space between paragraphs. No indentations are allowed. If a list is to be printed (clubs, accomplishments, goals, etc.), it will appear as shown in the following paragraph.

I belong to the following organizations: PTA...Chamber of Commerce...Zoological Society...Bridge Club. If elected, I will: 1) lower taxes; 2) increase services; 3) cure the common cold; 4) be your servant. The Registrar of Voters staff will make modifications so it conforms to these rules.

CANDIDATE FOR EXAMPLE OFFICE SAMPLE DISTRICT

NAME: JOHN DOE

AGE: 45

OCCUPATION: Political Consultant

FORMAT/CONTENT: This is an example of an acceptable format to be used in a candidate's statement of qualifications. The guidelines for the content of the statement are on the preceding page.

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- It is acceptable to use four bullet statements.

PARAGRAPHS: The candidate statement is printed in standard block paragraph form, which means each paragraph will start on the left and the margins will be justified (as shown in this example). A space will appear between paragraphs unless the statement is submitted without a space between paragraphs. No indentations are allowed. If a list is to be printed (clubs, accomplishments, goals, etc.), it will appear as shown in the following paragraph.

I belong to the following organizations: PTA...Chamber of Commerce...Zoological Society...Bridge Club. If elected, I will: 1) lower taxes; 2) increase services; 3) cure the common cold; 4) be your servant. The Registrar of Voters staff will make modifications so it conforms to these rules.

Campaign Laws and Regulations

The Political Reform Act requires candidates to file campaign statements disclosing contributions received and expenditures made. The statutory requirements of the Political Reform Act are contained in Section 81000 through Section 91015 of the California Government Code. Manuals and forms relating to campaign reporting obligations under the Act may be obtained from your local elections official or the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). Assistance and information on completing campaign statements is provided by the Technical Assistance Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) at (916) 322-5660, (866) 275-3772 or on their website at www.fppc.ca.gov.

Candidates who DO NOT anticipate spending or receiving over \$1,000

Form 501 Candidate Intention Statement

This form announces the candidate's intention to run for office. All candidates must file this form prior to solicitation or receipt of any contribution, or expenditure of any personal funds used for the election. This form is considered filed the date it is postmarked or hand delivered to the Office of the Registrar of Voters. Complete parts 1 and 3 and sign and date the form in ink. An unsigned statement is not considered filed. You must file a separate Form 501 for each election. **Exception:** This form is not required if you will not solicit or receive contributions from other persons and the only expenditures from your personal funds will be used for the filing fee and/or candidate statement in the sample ballot. Government Code §85200

Form 470 Officeholder and Candidate Campaign Statement-Short Form

Candidates who do **not** anticipate spending or receiving over \$1,000 during the calendar year, and do not have a controlled committee, need to file this form.

Form 470 Supplement

After the candidate has filed a Form 470 and then subsequently receives contributions (including monetary or non-monetary contributions, loans and the candidate's personal funds) totaling \$1,000 or more or makes expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more, is required to send written notification, (the Form 470 Supplement) within 48 hours, to the Registrar of Voters office and to each candidate seeking the same office. Regular mail may not be used. Send by FAX, guaranteed overnight delivery or personal delivery. The candidate must file a Form 410 Statement of Organization within 10 days of receiving over \$1,000 in contributions.

Candidates who anticipate spending or receiving OVER \$1,000

Form 501 Candidate Intention Statement

Same requirements as previously stated under Candidates who DO NOT anticipate spending or receiving over \$1,000.

Form 410 Statement of Organization

This **completed** form must be filed with the Secretary of State's Political Reform Division (original & 1 copy) and with the Office of the Registrar of Voters (2 copies), within 10 days of receiving \$1,000 in contributions or spending \$1,000 in expenditures. The term "contribution" includes monetary payments, loans and non-monetary goods or services. You will need to establish a campaign contribution account at any financial institution located in California before you can complete the Form 410. 1) All contributions or loans made to the candidate, to a person on behalf of the candidate, or to the candidate's controlled committee shall be deposited in the account. 2) Any personal funds which will be utilized to promote the election of the candidate shall be deposited in the account prior to expenditure. 3) All campaign expenditures shall be made from this account.*

Government Code §85201

* This does not apply to a candidate's payment of a filing fee and/or statement of qualifications from his/her personal funds.

Upon filing of the Form 410 with the Office of the Secretary of State, they will issue you a committee ID number, which you must include on all subsequent disclosure filings. A Form 410 may be filed **prior** to the receipt of \$1,000 in order to obtain an ID number and/or to submit bank account information. However, within ten days of receiving or spending \$1,000 or more, you must file an **amended Form 410**. The date you qualify as a committee is the date you received \$1,000 or more. Any time you change any information listed on a previously filed Form 410, such as addresses or treasurer information, you must file an **amended Form 410**. **All amended forms must be filed with both the Secretary of State/Political Reform Division and the Registrar of Voters.**

A committee that **qualifies during the last 16 days prior to an election**, and makes independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more to support or oppose a candidate or candidates being voted on in the election, **must file the information required on the Form 410 within 24 hours**. The Form 410 must be faxed, sent by guaranteed overnight delivery, telegram, personally delivered or online (if online filing is available).

Government Code §84101

Once you have filed your Form 410 and have been assigned your ID number, you will file the **Form 460 Recipient Committee Campaign Statement** according to the filing calendar set by the FPPC. Your ID number must appear on every form you file during your campaign. **ALL** candidate controlled committees **MUST FILE** the Form 460 by the appropriate deadlines for each filing period. **If you do not file your campaign statement by the deadline, you are subject to a fine.** Local candidates file their Form 460 reports only with the Registrar of Voters.

Please refer to Fair Political Practices Commission Manual 2 on the CD you are given for further details on filing requirements. Below is a brief description of some of the forms you may be required to file. Fair Political Practices Commission forms are available from the FPPC website www.fppc.ca.gov or from the Registrar of Voters by calling (909) 387-8300 or (800) 881-8683.

The **Form 410** is also used to **terminate** your committee upon fulfilling all applicable requirements.

Form 460 - Recipient Committee Campaign Statement

For use by a candidate or officeholder not eligible to file the short form (Form 470) or who is filing jointly with one or more controlled committees. A controlled committee is one that is controlled directly or indirectly by a candidate or which acts jointly with a candidate or controlled committee in connection with the making of expenditures.

Form 496 - Late Independent Expenditure Report

This form **may** be used to report a late independent expenditure and must be filed within 24 hours of making the independent expenditure **and** each time \$1,000 or more is spent to support or oppose a single candidate or measure during the 16 days immediately prior to the election in which the candidate or measure is being voted on. This form must be filed by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery, or personal delivery. Regular mail may not be used. **(Government Code Section §85501 prohibits a candidate's controlled committee from making an independent expenditure to support or oppose another candidate.)**

Form 497 - Late Contribution Report

This form **may** be used to report a late contribution. Late contributions must be reported within 24 hours of receiving a monetary or non monetary contribution, including a loan, or a combination of monetary and non monetary contributions and loans that total **\$1,000 or more from a single source**, during the 16 day period preceding the election in which the candidate or measure is to be voted on. Regular mail may **not** be used to file this report. File by fax, guaranteed overnight delivery or personal delivery.

Election Related Filings

All committees must file reports by the filing deadline for the specific period set by the FPPC. These dates are set by law and cannot be changed. You will be required to amend your statement if your report does not list the correct reporting period. All committees should file by the appropriate method of delivery. ***Please note that for the statement due September 27, 2007, you are required to deliver your statement in person or by guaranteed overnight service.*** A copy of the current FPPC calendar is in this section and copies are also available at the Registrar of Voters.

Faxing Campaign Statements

Campaign statements that contain 30 pages or less may be faxed provided that the faxed copy of the campaign statement is the exact copy of the original version. **The original version must be sent by first class mail, guaranteed overnight delivery, or delivered personally within 24 hours of the applicable deadline.**

Government Code §81007

Reporting Donor Information on Schedule A, Form 460

Committees must disclose the name and address of contributors who contribute \$100 or more during a calendar year. If the contributor is an individual, the occupation and employer must be listed as well. An amended Form 460 can be filed later if this information is not available before the filing deadline. File all Form 460's on or before the deadline to avoid a fine. You are not required to attach schedule pages to the Form 410 containing a zero total.

Government Code §85700

LAWS GOVERNING CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

Political Advertising

Any paid political advertisement that refers to an election or to any candidate for state or local elective office and that is contained in or distributed with a newspaper, shall bear on each surface or page thereof, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or lettering of the advertisement or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, the words "Paid Political Advertisement". The words shall be set apart from any other printed matter. As used in this section "Paid Political Advertisement" shall mean and shall be limited to, published statements paid for by advertisers for purposes of supporting or defeating any person who has filed for an elective state or local office. E.C. §20008

Local jurisdictions have each established ordinances regarding political advertising and signs. Refer to the "Outdoor Political Advertising Guidelines" section in this guide for contact information for each of the city code enforcement offices in San Bernardino County to obtain further information.

Simulation of the Ballot

Every simulated ballot or simulated sample ballot shall bear on each surface or page thereof, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or lettering of the statement or words or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, in a printed or drawn box and set apart from any other printed matter, the following statement:

"NOTICE TO VOTERS
"(Required by Law)

"This is not an official ballot or an official sample ballot prepared by the county elections official or the Secretary of State.

"This is an unofficial, marked ballot prepared by _____ (insert name and address of the person or organization responsible for preparation thereof)."

Violations will result in a court injunction. Our office is available to review proposed ballot simulations. E.C. §20009

Campaign Literature Containing Polling Place of Voter

No person shall distribute, or cause to be distributed, literature to voters which includes the designation of a voter's polling place other than the precinct polling place listed for that voter in the latest official precinct polling place list prepared within 30 days prior to such distribution. Violations may result in criminal penalties. E.C. §18302

Candidates are requested not to distribute or mail campaign literature telling a voter where his/her polling place is located. It is not only confusing to voters, but invariably some polling place changes occur in the last few days before an election. In the past, candidates have mailed or had distributed campaign literature telling voters to go to the wrong polling place. We are sure you can understand the problems this causes for voters and our staff, as well as for the candidate.

Mass Mailing/Campaign Literature

The definition of "Mass Mailing" is two hundred (200) or more identical or nearly identical pieces of mail, but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to a unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry. Government Code §82041.5

Mass Mailing Requirements

Section 84305 of the Government Code provides as follows:

- a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), no candidate or committee shall send a mass mailing unless the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee are shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of such mailing in no less than 6-point type. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the organization's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.
- b) If the sender of the mass mailing is a single candidate or committee, the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee need only be shown on the outside of each piece of mail.
- c) If the sender of a mass mailing is a controlled committee, the name of the person controlling the committee shall be included in addition to the information required by subdivision (a).

Mass Mailing Prohibitions

NO newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense.

Truth In Endorsements Law

Elections Code §20008 et seq. provides additional information regarding restrictions on endorsements, representation requirements, etc. A copy of the code is available for viewing at the Registrar of Voters.

False or Misleading Information to Voters

No candidate shall submit any nomination paper or declaration of candidacy knowing that any part of it has been made falsely. Violations may result in criminal penalties. No candidate shall attempt to mislead the public by pretending or implying by his statements or conduct that he is an incumbent of a public office or that he has acted in the capacity of a public officer when this is not the case. (§18350) Violations may result in civil penalties. In the occupational designation on the ballot, no candidate shall assume a designation which would mislead the voters. E.C. §13107, §18203, §18350

ELECTIONEERING ON ELECTION DAY

On Election Day, no person at any time shall be within 100 feet of a polling place or an elections official's office and:

- a) Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition or any other petition.
- b) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his ballot.
- c) Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his qualifications except as provided in Section 14240. No person other than the precinct board or election official may challenge or question any voter regarding his/her qualifications.
- d) Electioneer.

As used in this section "100 feet of a polling place or an election official's office" shall mean a distance 100 feet from the entrance to the room or rooms in which voters are signing the roster and casting ballots.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and if intimidation is used, a felony. (§18370, 18541) Persons who conspire to violate Section 18543 (challenging without probable cause) are guilty of a felony.

Section 18403 of the Elections Code provides that any person other than an elections official or a precinct board member who receives a voted ballot from a voter or who examines or solicits the voter to show his or her voted ballot is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), by state imprisonment for 16 months or two or three years, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment. This section shall not apply to persons returning an absentee ballot or persons assisting a voter as provided by law.

Section 18540 provides that every person who makes use of or threatens to make use of, or who hires or arranges for any other person to make use of or threaten to make use of, any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election, or for any particular person or measure, or because any person voted or refrained from voting for any particular

person or measure at any election is guilty of a felony punishable by state imprisonment for 16 months or two or three years.

Section 18544 provides that any person in possession of a firearm or any uniformed peace officer, private guard, or security officer who is stationed in the immediate vicinity of, or posted at a polling place without written authorization of the appropriate city or county elections official is punishable by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), state imprisonment for 16 months or two or three years, county jail term not exceeding one year, or both the fine and imprisonment.

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

(Election Code Sections 20400-20444)

Background Information

In 1982, legislation was passed which established a "Code of Fair Campaign Practices" in California which could be voluntarily subscribed to by candidates for public office. Amendments in 1987 expanded the provisions of the code so as to apply to committees formed primarily to support/oppose a ballot measure, and also reaffirmed civil liability provisions pertaining to libel and slander in campaign advertising and communications.

The text of the provisions of the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is listed on the following pages.

Registrar of Voters Requirement

The Registrar of Voters is required, at the time an individual is issued his/her Declaration of Candidacy, nomination papers, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office, to provide the candidate a blank form on which to subscribe to the "Code of Fair Campaign Practices" and a copy of the Elections Code provisions.

Voluntary Subscription

Subscription to the Code is voluntary. Completed forms are to be filed with the Registrar of Voters and shall be retained for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

PROVISIONS OF THE CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES
as found in Chapter 5 of Division 20 of the California Elections Code

Chapter 5. Fair Campaign Practices
Article 1. General Intent

20400. The Legislature declares that the purpose of this chapter is to encourage every candidate for public office in this state to subscribe to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

It is the ultimate intent of the Legislature that every candidate for public office in this state who subscribes to the Code of Fair Campaign Practices will follow the basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, the citizens of this state may exercise their constitutional right to vote, free from dishonest and unethical practices which tend to prevent the full and free expression of the will of the voters.

The purpose in creating the Code of Fair Campaign Practices is to give voters guidelines in determining fair play and to encourage candidates to discuss issues instead of untruths or distortions.

Article 2. Definitions

20420. As used in this chapter, "Code" means the Code of Fair Campaign Practices.

Article 3. Code of Fair Campaign Practices

20440. At the time an individual is issued his or her declaration of candidacy, nomination papers, or any other paper evidencing an intention to be a candidate for public office, the elections official, shall give the individual a blank form of the Code and a copy of this chapter. The elections official shall inform each candidate for public office that subscription to the code is voluntary.

In the case of a committee making an independent expenditure as defined in Section 82031 of the Government Code, the Secretary of State shall provide a blank form and a copy of this chapter to the individual filing, in accordance with Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code, an initial campaign statement on behalf of the committee.

20441. The Secretary of State shall print, or cause to be printed, blank forms of the code. The Secretary of State shall supply the forms to the elections officials in quantities and at times requested by the elections officials.

20442. The elections official shall accept, at all times prior to the election, all completed forms that are properly subscribed to by a candidate for public office and shall retain them for public inspection until 30 days after the election.

20443. Every code subscribed to by a candidate for public office pursuant to this chapter is a public record open for public inspection.

20444. In no event shall a candidate for public office be required to subscribe to or endorse the code.

CODE OF FAIR CAMPAIGN PRACTICES - OATH

There are basic principles of decency, honesty, and fair play which every candidate for public office in the State of California has a moral obligation to observe and uphold, in order that, after vigorously contested, but fairly conducted campaigns, our citizens may exercise their constitutional right to a free and untrammelled choice and the will of the people may be fully and clearly expressed on the issues.

THEREFORE:

(1) I SHALL CONDUCT my campaign openly and publicly, discussing the issues as I see them, presenting my record and policies with sincerity and frankness, and criticizing without fear or favor the record and policies of my opponents or political parties which merit such criticism.

(2) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT the use of character defamation, whispering campaigns, libel, slander, or scurrilous attacks on any candidate or his or her personal or family life.

(3) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT any appeal to negative prejudice based on race, sex, religion, national origin, physical health status, or age.

(4) I SHALL NOT USE OR PERMIT any dishonest or unethical practice which tends to corrupt or undermine our American system of free elections, or which hampers or prevents the full and free expression of the will of the voters including acts intended to hinder or prevent any eligible person from registering to vote, enrolling to vote, or voting.

(5) I SHALL NOT coerce election help or campaign contributions for myself or for any other candidate from my employees.

(6) I SHALL IMMEDIATELY AND PUBLICLY REPUDIATE support deriving from any individual or group which resorts, on behalf of my candidacy or in opposition to that of my opponent, to the methods and tactics which I condemn. I shall accept responsibility to take firm action against any subordinate who violates any provision of this code or the laws governing elections.

(7) I SHALL DEFEND AND UPHOLD the right of every qualified American voter to full and equal participation in the electoral process.

I, the undersigned, candidate for election to public office in the State of California or treasurer or chairperson of a committee making any independent expenditures, hereby voluntarily endorse, subscribe to, and solemnly pledge myself to conduct my campaign in accordance with the above principles and practices.

Signature

Date

Office Sought

Date of the Election

OUTDOOR POLITICAL ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Posting of County Political Signs

The following guidelines on posting of temporary political signs in San Bernardino County areas are provided to be of assistance. More detailed information, or updates, can be obtained by contacting Code Enforcement (800) 722-3181 or (909) 387-4044.

A temporary political sign is any sign that indicates any one or a combination of the following:

1. The name or picture of an individual seeking election or appointment to a public office.
2. Relates to a forthcoming public election or referendum.
3. Advocates a person, group, or party's political views or policies.

A temporary political sign is permitted in any land use district subject to the following limitations:

1. Such political signs shall be removed within thirty (30) days after the same election.
2. Such political signs shall have a maximum area of eight (8) square feet in residential land use districts and thirty-two (32) square feet in all other land use districts, unless such sign is an accessory (e.g. campaign headquarters) or primary sign permitted by this chapter.
3. Such political signs shall not be erected within any street intersection, clear, sight triangle or at any location where the sign may interfere with, obstruct the view of, or be confused with any authorized traffic sign.
4. Such political signs shall not be nailed or affixed to any tree, fence post or public utility pole and shall not be located in the public right-of way, parkway or on publicly owned land.

San Bernardino County Flood Control or Right of Ways

NO political signs can be placed within the San Bernardino County Flood Control or Road Right of Way.

State Political Sign Regulations

The California Department of Transportation has specific guidelines and responsibilities pertaining to political signs placed within their areas of jurisdiction. This information will be issued to candidates when receiving their nomination papers.

City Political Sign Regulations

The placement of signs within the city limits is regulated by each respective city. Listed below is the contact information for each city code enforcement office within San Bernardino County. Please contact them if you have any questions.

Apple Valley

(760) 240-7560

Grand Terrace

(909) 430-2229

Redlands

(909) 798-7534 ext. 5

Adelanto

(760) 246-3305

Hesperia

(760) 947-1343

Rialto

(909) 820-2636

Barstow

(760) 255-5168

Highland

(909) 864-6861 ext. 201

San Bernardino

(909) 384-5205

Big Bear Lake

(909) 866-5831

Loma Linda

(909) 799-2860

Twentynine Palms

(760) 367-6799

Chino

(909) 591-9809

Montclair

(909) 626-1210

Upland

(909) 946-4612

Chino Hills

(909) 364-2757

Needles

(760) 326-4952

Victorville

(760) 955-5104

Colton

(909) 370-5114

Ontario

(909) 395-2007

Yucaipa

(909) 797-2489 ext. 245

Fontana

(909) 350-7686

Rancho Cucamonga

(909) 477-2712

Yucca Valley

(760) 369-6575 ext.322

Services Available to Candidates

VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTION DATA

Per confidentiality laws of 1995, voter information is confidential; however, there are specific permissible exceptions to the law. The California Administrative Code, Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 1, Article 1, Sections 19003, 19004, & 19005 specifies permissible uses for any data obtained from voter registration files. Permissible usage includes direct election campaigning, surveys in conjunction with an election campaign, and distribution of information of a political nature. Data obtained from voter registration or election files may not be sold, leased, loaned, reproduced, or possession thereof relinquished without receiving written authorization to do so from the Secretary of State or the Registrar of Voters. Prohibited usage includes commercial purposes and solicitations of contributions or services for any purpose other than on behalf of a candidate or political party, or in support of or opposition to a ballot measure.

Public Viewing Terminals

The voter registration database may be viewed from a public terminal in the lobby area of the Registrar of Voters. The public viewing terminal is available during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The public terminal screen does not reveal confidential voter registration information. Confidential information includes such items as: residential street address, telephone number, precinct number, occupation, driver's license number and the last four digits of a social security number.

Confidential Viewing Terminals

Viewing of the confidential voter registration database is only available at the Registrar of Voters. To view the confidential voter registration database, you will be required to provide identification and complete an Application for Voter Information. The confidential viewing terminal is available during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Purchasing Voter Information

Voter information and maps are available for purchase at the Registrar of Voters. You must present a valid picture ID the first time you place an order. If you do not want to come into our office, please contact Shirley Armstead at (909) 387-2271 for instructions. When purchasing voter information, you will be asked to complete an "Application for Voter Information" and explain why you need this information. You must pay for your order in advance. Our office will call you when your order is ready for pickup. Orders are processed in the order they are received. Generally, there is a three business day turnaround.

ELECTION DAY POLL WATCHING GUIDLINES

The polls officially open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Any voter waiting in line to vote at 8:00 p.m. will be allowed to vote. The Registrar of Voters is also open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. to assist voters. Absentee Ballots may be returned to any polling place in San Bernardino County or the Registrar of Voters office prior to 8:00 p.m.

Poll watchers may not wear candidate badges, discuss candidates, how a voter voted, or bring any campaign material into the polling place. This constitutes electioneering and is illegal. Electioneering may not be conducted within 100 feet of a polling place. The term "100 feet of a polling place" means a distance of 100 feet from the room or rooms in which voters are signing the Roster-Index and casting ballots. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor. E.C. §18370

No one may be within 100 feet of a polling place while wearing a firearm or a peace officer or security guard uniform except: (1) An unarmed uniformed guard or security personnel who is at the polling place to cast his/her vote; (2) A peace officer who is conducting official business in the course of his/her public employment or who is at the polling place to cast his/her voter; (3) A private guard or security personnel hired or arranged for by a city or county elections official; (4) A private guard or security personnel hired or arranged for by the owner or manager of the facility or property in which the polling place is located if the guard or security personnel is not hired or arranged solely for the day on which an election is held. E.C. §18544

The Precinct Board will attempt to respond to any reasonable, lawful requests from observers. The Registrar's office has instructed Precinct Officers to ask unruly poll watchers to leave, and to ask for assistance from the local law enforcement agency, if necessary.

ELECTION NIGHT RESULTS

San Bernardino County uses a central location for tallying votes. All ballots are tabulated in the Registrar of Voters Tally Center located at 777 E. Rialto Ave., San Bernardino.

The vote counting procedure is open to public viewing. Unofficial results are available throughout the evening of the election in the Registrar of Voters office beginning at approximately 8:15 p.m. and continuing until all precinct ballots have been tallied. Results may also be obtained by calling the Registrar of Voters office at (909) 387-8300 or 800-881-8683 or visiting our web site (www.sbcrov.com).